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6/24/98

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NSC BRIEFING

2 OCTOBER 1956

SUEZ BACKGROUND: ANNEX A--EGYPTIAN MILITARY DISPOSITIONS

- I. Ground Forces: Estimated strength of the Egyptian Army (including the National Guard) is ^{108,500}~~107,000~~. This force is deployed in three principal areas, as follows:

Sinai Peninsula & Israeli Front	-- ^{35,900} 34,400
Canal Zone	-- 15,000
Nile Delta Area	-- 56,100

- A. G-2 estimates that 1,500 other Egyptian troops are in scattered garrisons up the Nile and in Western Desert oases.

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- B. The substantial withdrawals from Sinai in the past few weeks include 1 infantry and most of 1 armored division.
- C. A selective inventory of Egyptian armament shows the following:

TANKS			MISC ARMORED VEHICLES	ARTILLERY FIELD		ARTILLERY A/T	
L.	M.	H.	650	SP	75mm- 100mm	100mm- 155mm	SP 57mm- 151 75mm
40	259	82		11	124	50	249
ARTILLERY A/A			ARTILLERY MISC				
20mm- 75mm- 40mm 130mm			Rocket-Launchers, recoilless			Mortars 81mm-120mm	
470	36		1,200			288	

II. Naval Forces. Principal concentrations are in three areas:

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ALEXANDRIA:

4 destroyers
4 patrol escorts
6 fleet minesweepers
7 coastal minesweepers
8 motor torpedo boats

PORT SAID:

2 patrol escorts
7 motor torpedo boats

RED SEA:

1 patrol escort
6 motor torpedo
boats

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III. Air Forces.

- A. Recent EAF redeployment will strengthen defense of the Canal Zone at the expense of the air defense of the Cairo area.
- B. Present estimated deployment of the EAF, other than 19 Il-28s at Luxor, is in two main areas:

CANAL ZONE AREA:

Abu Suweir--15 MIG-15 jet fighters
Fayid --20 Meteor jet fighters
Kabrit --15 MIG-15 jet fighters
Kasfarest --17 Vampire jet fighters

CAIRO AREA:

Almaza--9 piston fighters
8 piston recon.
C/West--17 Vampire Jet fighters
27 jet l.bombers
6 piston m.bombers
Inchas--15 MIG-15 jet fighters

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